

THE TRIAL OF  
Capt. LEESON's  
CASE:  
BEING AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF HIS  
TRYAL, &c.

Price Sixpence.

СЛОВО ПРОСВЕЩЕНИЯ

ЕЗА

ИАВИЕ

ТИЦОСА

СИНО

СЛОВО ПРОСВЕЩЕНИЯ

ПОСЛАНИЕ

*Capt. LEESON'S*  
~~510 f6~~  
~~787~~  
**C A S E :**

BEING AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF HIS  
**TRYAL**

For Committing a

**R A P E**

Upon the Body of Mrs. *M A T*, a  
Married Woman of 35 Years of Age;  
for which he receiv'd Sentence of  
Death, on the 30th of *April 1715*. but  
has since obtain'd his Majesty's most  
Gracious Reprieve, in order to a  
Pardon.

---

LONDON: Printed for *J. Roberts* at the  
*Oxford-Arms in Warwick Lane.* 1715.

Capr. TESOMS

• A S E : C

REINING AN

ACCOUANT

of His

TRYAL

for Committing a



Upon the Body of Mrs. M<sup>r</sup> A<sup>r</sup> a  
Widow Mrs<sup>r</sup> of 34 Years of Age;  
Her Husband was received into the  
Debt<sup>r</sup> on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 1712<sup>r</sup> and  
was since owing his Mistress a Month  
Crossions Rebate<sup>r</sup> in order to a  
Pardon

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MONDOV<sup>r</sup> Printed for R. & R. Rogers at the  
Globe<sup>r</sup> in the Strand<sup>r</sup> London 1712.

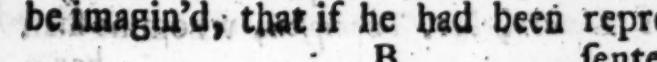
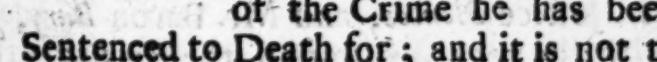
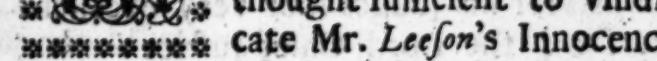
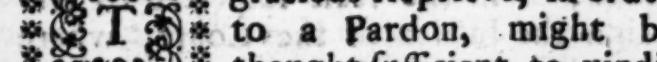
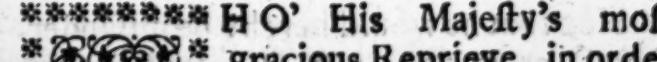
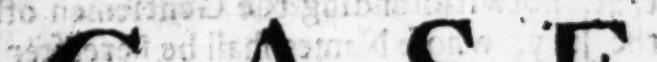
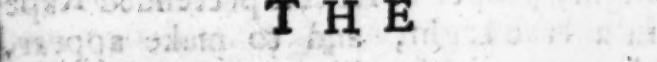
**THE**

# PREFACE.

To prevent false Suggestions, it is thought fit to give the Reader an Account, that nothing is intended in the following CASE, to cast the least Aspersion upon the Honourable Bench, to whom Mr. LEESON

LEESON owns himself ver-  
ry much obliged for hearing  
him with the greatest Candour  
and Impartiality.

As to the *Jury*, he leaves  
them to Publick Censure, and  
submits himself to the Judg-  
ment of all Gentlemen and  
others, from whom he pro-  
miseth himself a more fayour-  
able Sentence.



THE

# CASE

OF

## Capt. Leeson, &c.

HO' His Majesty's most gracious Reprieve, in order to a Pardon, might be thought sufficient to vindicate Mr. Leeson's Innocence of the Crime he has been Sentenced to Death for ; and it is not to be imagin'd, that if he had been represented

B  
represented

sented Guilty of it to that most excellent Prince, and his Wise and Impartial Council, the Execution of that Sentence wou'd have been remitted him; yet there is such a necessity of clearing up his Character from the foul Aspersions that have been, and will continue, without so doing, to be cast upon him, that it is thought highly proper to set this pretended Rape in a true Light, and to make appear, that, notwithstanding the Gentlemen of the Jury, whose Names shall be hereafter mention'd in due order, were pleased to give their Verdict against him, he was so far from committing the Fact which he stands convicted of, that he never offer'd any Violence directly or indirectly to the forswn Woman, that has endeavour'd to take away his Life, upon no other Grounds but because he did not.

Not that he would hereby be misunderstood, or in the least suspected to Arraign the Justice of the Court, where he had for his Judges four very excellent Persons, the Lord Chief Justice *Parker*, Mr. Justice *Blencoe*, and Mr. Baron *Bury*, with the very Worshipful the Recorder of *London*, Mr: *Thompson*, whom he shall have

have in Esteem and Reverence, for the Favour he did him in his Report to the King and Council, but would give his Friends to understand, that tho' he is so unhappy as to appear a very great Criminal in the Eye of the Law, that he is not to be judg'd as such in the Eye of God, to whom he Appeals, as the searcher of Hearts, for a Proof of his Innocence in that particular, for which he has been Condemn'd at an Earthly Tribunal.

He is sensible of, and shall ever acknowledge with the utmost Gratitude, the readines of the Bench to give Ear to any thing alledged in his Justification, and holds himself obliged to say, That no Man would have had a fairer Tryal, had the Jury been as much inclined to believe him Guiltless, as those, before whom they brought him in quite otherwise. How well they deserved to be of an Inquest in Matters of Life and Death, may be known from the Words of one of them, who being ask'd after the Delivery of the Verdict, Why he did not rather chuse to starve the rest of his Brethren into more equitable Sentiments,

timents, than to give his Agreement to it ? Reply'd with an Air of Indifference, *I*de did not think it worth while to differ in Opinion with them, because he knew the Gentleman had such Interest at Court, that he would not die for it. For which the Captain owes him no Thanks, since he did all that in him lay to make a forfeit of his Life, which had most assuredly been lost, had his Majesty had as little Penetration and Mercy in searching into the Merits of the Cause, as that inconsiderate Jury-man, whom he is very ready to forgive, having so learn'd from his Education, as a Christian, a Gentleman, and a Scholar, notwithstanding he went into such Measures as might have put him out of the reach of Forgiveness.

So much has been thought fit to be premised by way of Introduction ; let us now come into the recital of the Fact for which Mr. *Leeson* was Indicted and found Guilty : In order to give the Reader a fair and full account thereof, which cannot be better done, than by inserting the very Words of the *Sessions Paper*, as far as it relates to him ; and afterwards, by making such Remarks upon the Evidence

dence against him, as may shew the falsehood of every Particular that has been Sworn against him. The Sessions Paper says, ' That *Hugh Leeson* (without giving him the Title of a Gentleman, tho' known to be an Officer in the Army) and *Sarah Blandford* of the Parish of *St. Martins in the Fields*, were Indicted, he for committing a Rape upon the Body of *Mary*, the Wife of *Richard May*, she as Accessary, Aiding and Abetting to the same, on the 8th of April last. Mrs. *May* swore, That her Husband had been Arrested by one *Exton*, a Bailiff, and kept in his Spunging House till he had made up his Business; which having done, as they were going along the Street together a few days after, while she stood talking with a Friend, her Husband was gone; and she having been inform'd by *Exton*, that there was another Action against him, went to his House, and ask'd if he was brought there, which they denying, she desired to see their Prison Rooms; and accordingly, that *Blandford*, whose Husband is *Exton's* Follower, went up along with her, and *Leeson*, who lodges in the House, would go with them. Has

ving seen a Room or two, she desired  
 to know if there was not another,  
 which *Blandford* shew'd her, and as  
 soon as *Lesson* and she were in toge-  
 ther, *fasten'd the Door*, and went away  
 laughing. As soon as she was gone,  
*Lesson* flung her upon the Bed, and  
 clapping one Hand upon her Mouth,  
 endeavour'd to force himself between  
 her Legs, which not being able to do,  
 he took his Hand from thence, and put-  
 ting both his Hands to her Privy Parts  
 behind, did by force enter, and had  
 Carnal Knowledge of her Body, she  
 crying out all the while, but no Body  
 coming to her assistance till it was over,  
 when *Blandford* open'd the Door laugh-  
 ing, and said, *Captain, you are a Man*  
*Midwife, I hope you have groped her well*;  
*come, come, Mrs. May, the Captain is a*  
*handsome Man, and you are a pretty Wo-*  
*man, and I hope have got a pretty Child*.  
 That then she went down and com-  
 plained of the Injury done her, and so  
 went Home, where she told how she  
 had been used. She produc'd a Witness,  
 who declared, that when she came  
 Home, she told her, that she was un-  
 done for ever, and receiv'd damage in  
 her

her private Parts; and that she making Inspection, found a Scratch, and the Parts somewhat red, as if Violence had been us'd. Her Mother depos'd to the same purpose; and a Surgeon swore, that there was a Scratch, and a sort of an Inflammation in those Parts. *Lesson* in his Defence said, That he had never seen Mrs. *May* in his Life before; and that when he went up Stairs with her, it was at her own Request: And to prove this, he brought several Witnesses, who swore she thrust herself into his Company, and would not be quiet till he went up Stairs with her; and when he had been up once, she told him, she believ'd he was no Man, for if he had, he would have given her something, and therefore she long'd to go with him again, and in a manner, forced him to go; and one swore she heard her say, *Come, Captain, they say you are a Man Midwife, pray feel my Belly*; after which, when they came down Stairs, she sat in his Lap, kiss'd him, and was so very fond, that he grew uneasy and would be gone; and that she seeing him going, would go along with him, and he could not

be

' be rid of her. There were two Mid-  
 ' wives swore she had no Damage that  
 ' they could perceive; and a Surgeon  
 ' deposed, that she did not seem to have  
 ' any Damage by a Force, but upon  
 ' search he found her to be Clap'd; and  
 ' upon searching *Leeson*, which he had  
 ' done twice since, he found him very  
 ' Sound. There were other Witnesses,  
 ' who said she was a Woman of a Scan-  
 ' dalous Life, and one Swore he heard  
 ' her Husband tax her with Clapping  
 ' him. He then brought several Gentle-  
 ' men who gave him a very good Cha-  
 ' racter, as to his Behaviour in *Dublin*  
 ' College, in the Army, and elsewhere.  
 ' *Blandford* had also some, who gave her  
 ' a good Character. After all which were  
 ' heard, *May* called Witness to her Re-  
 ' putation, who gave her the Character  
 ' of a very Industrious, Honest Woman,  
 ' amongst whom was a Minister, who  
 ' Marry'd her to her Husband about  
 ' Eight years ago, had administer'd the  
 ' Sacrament to her, and heard among her  
 ' Neighbours, that she lived a very Ho-  
 ' nest, Regular Life. The Jury consi-  
 ' dering the Matter found both the Pri-  
 ' soners Guilty.

So that the Witnesses on the side of the Persons accused, notwithstanding they had good Characters given of them likewise, were of no manner of use to them, and might as well have stay'd away as appear'd in Court, as this Verdict implies ; tho' there are no Objections raised here against the Credibility of their respective Evidences, not so much as those who came in behalf of the Woman, much less against those worthy Gentlemen, who were all of them Men of Honour and Figure, and could not be induced to speak any thing contrary to their Knowledge upon any Consideration whatsoever.

We are now come to the Second thing proposed, which is, To make Remarks upon the Evidence given against the Captain and the other, which we shall not find brought by any Persons of Condition or Fortune, but Women of very suspected Characters, as Mrs. *May's* Mother, whose Employ it is to keep a House for fluxing loose People in Veneral Dispepsers, and has practis'd upon her own Daughter on the same Account ; *Hannah Macrene*, a Shrew that has been Sentenc'd to

to stand in a White Sheet for a common Disturber of her Neighbours in Piccadilly ; and one Bryard, an old Roman Catholick Matron in Bedfordbury by Covent Garden, whose Husband is a Journeyman Shoe-maker, and consequently entitles her to an unquestionable Reputation, tho' all she could alledge in Justification of May's Character, that she knew her to be a very quiet, orderly Woman when she lived in her Neighbourhood, and that was Seven Years ago, when she had been Marry'd but one Year, and in all probability, had not that Relish for bad Company, which something more than common Report proves her to have since had ; nor is Mr. Perry the Clergyman's Testimony (with all deference to the Sacred Habit) whatsoever Influence it had upon the Jury, sufficient to absolve her of her scandalous Life, she might receive the Sacrament as she did, in order to put a better gloss upon her Actions ; might frequent the Church sometimes, which she did in pursuance of her Mother's Occupation, to bring Bills thither at the Desire of such Patients as were at the last Extremity ; and might have several Neighbours to attest for her Conduct ; and

and yet all this while be guilty of many vicious Actions. The most abandon'd Prostitute may have these things to plead in Bar of publick Censure; and there are few or none of the worst sort of Women, but on occasion, can bring some Neighbours or other, whom Friendship, and past good Offices incline to speak well of them, tho' the Credit of Affidavit makers ought to be Weigh'd in Ballance against the Attestations of their Accusers. Had this been thoroughly done in her Case, Mr. Leeson is apt to believe a more favourable *Verdict* would have been brought in at his; and the Oath of two Midwives and a Surgeon, would have been accounted more Valid, than that of an Infamous Woman, back'd by those of others of the same Character.

That Mrs. May was Clapp'd, and Mr. Leeson not, appears by the Deposition of a very able Surgeon who Search'd both: Now that the one should be Diseas'd and the other Sound, after they had Carnal Knowledge of each other, is such a Paradox no Man living can Explain, since the Nature of that Distemper is such, as to communicate its Contagion in all Acts of

of Copulation, which the Captain is so far from having had with her, as to declare, that instead of knowing her after the manner of Women, he knows not to this very Hour whether she be a Man or Woman; tho' he must do her the Justice to acknowledge it to be none of her own Fault that he does not, since he had Invitations enough would he have complied with them. In Proof of her addiction to such Venereal Engagements, and her Solicitations to enter into them with others besides him; she is hereby put in Mind of young Mr. Cheesbrook, Son to him that keeps a great Inn near Hyde Park Corner, whom she has not only been very often Drunk with; but one Evening in particular, as they were taking a Walk together, he importun'd her to give her Husband the slip, that he and she might lie together; accordingly they two did outwalk Mr. May, who upon finding them together at the Tub Tavern near St. James's Market, said, *You Bitch what will you always be Bitching?* And had for Answer, *You Pocky Dog get you about your Business.* Upon which the poor Man replied, *If I am Pox'd, you Pox'd me;* and was bid to quit the Room by her, with

with Go you Cuckoldy Rogue, are not you  
sham'd to expose your self after this man-  
ner ?

Having given the Reader a Taste of this Woman's Virtues, and some insight into the Characters of the Witnesles that appeared in Justification of her honest and regular Life, amongst whom it is to be observ'd, that the Minister who Married her, and is only Reader to Dr. Clark, gives his Evidence by hearsay. Proceed we in the next place, to other Circumstances, that will plainly make appear, that if she was known Carnally, which the Person condemn'd altogether denies, that knowledge must have been obtain'd by her own Consent, and not by Force : Can any Man or Woman of tolerable Understanding be induced to believe, that a little Man as the Captain is, not above Five Foot Six Inches in height, could so manage a Woman of no small Size, and of Thirty five Years of Age, as by putting both his Hands to her Privy Parts behind, to enter her Body without her Concurrence, since her Hands were left entirely at her Liberty to make Resistance, as her Mouth was to

cry out had she thought fit to give it that Employment? And it is very natural for her Sex to exert themselves in their own Defence when Violence is done contrary to their Inclinations, and to leave some Marks of their Displeasure upon the Persons that Attack them by Scratches, &c. But here was no other Token of her being any ways enraged with the Captain, than her Derision of him, for not being a *Man*, and not giving her something when up Stairs with her; not so much as the least disorder or ruffle in his Wig or Cravat upon his coming down again to Mrs. Exton, insomuch, that it is given upon Oath, *That she sat in his Lap, kiss'd him, and was very fond of him afterwards, to such a Degree as to make Mr. Leeson uneasy, and so quit the Room.* After she had given him Invitations to feel her Belly in the Bed Chamber, which was so far from having a Lock or Staple to it, that during the time of his dying in it, it never had any thing like it, and of consequence could not be fasten'd, as alledged in Print; nor tho' Blandford might leave them together, is the Act of Uncleaness said to be committed during her Absence, the natural Con-

Consequence of it, notwithstanding she might suppose something more than ordinary done, and that he had laid hold of the opportunity that was given him of satiating her Lust, which she gave pregnant Proofs by her Desires to have him feel her Belly, and might on that account say, *Captain, you are a Man Mid-wife, I hope you know, &c.* as in the Printed Tryal ; because a Man and a Woman may be in a Room together longer than two Minutes, which was the utmost of the time they were left, the Mistress of the House being uneasy that they were at all so left, and yet have no such Dealing together ; and there was not one Person in the House that heard Mrs. May cry out, which they would, had she done it as she swears she did, there being several besides *Blandford* or her Mistress.

Thus far it has been thought to go by way of Observation on the Relations in Print concerning Mr. *Leeson*, and the Crime he and the Person Convicted with him have been brought in Guilty of ; we shall now give the Detail of what was spoken by him in his Defence, after he had produced abundance of Men of Quality,

lity, and Gentlemen of Condition and Letters, who were well acquainted with his manner of Behaviour in the Army, the University, and elsewhere. He told the Gentlemen of the Jury, ' That he hoped that there was little need of saying much to them, after the Evidence he had procur'd to invalidate the Testimonies which had been brought on the part of the Prosecutor, had been so full and ample, and doubted not but they would be pleas'd to distinguish between the Persons that had appeared in his Behalf, and those who came into the Court in Vindication of the Accuser, since there was a vast difference between their respective Characters ; and it was one thing to have undeniable Proofs brought in against one by undeniable Witnesses of a continued pursuit of Evil Courses in a Libidinous way of Life, and another to have his Conduct attested almost from his Cradle to that very time, to be Honourable and Praise-worthy : To which Mr. Leeson added, That he thank'd God his Inclinations had little or no bent to the Sin of uncleanness, and declar'd, that had he been prone to

to it, the Woman, whom he stood in Judgment there for committing a Rape upon, would have been the last in his Thoughts, as being old and disagreeable, and no way capable of exciting any thing like desire of Enjoyment in a Man, who he might, without Vanity say, had in his Power to make Application, and not without Success, to those of her Sex that were more amiable and engaging.

He further urged, that could he have been prevail'd with to part with a Sum of Money to stifle the Prosecution, he had never been brought to that Bar in the quality of a Ravisher and Deflower of Innocent Women ; and that even that Consideration might be of weight with them in whose Hands his Contumace in this World, or his Departure from it was wholly placed, since Judgment was to be given by the Gods according to their Determination.

After which he summed up the Evidence which had been given for, and against him, and very succinctly charg'd his Memory with every parti-

"cular that had been offer'd for, and  
 "against him, insisting very much on  
 "what had been alleged in reference  
 "to the Prosecutor and her Mother, de-  
 "siring them to look well upon the first,  
 "and consider with themselves, whe-  
 "ther one of his Stature and inconfide-  
 "rate Appearance, was fit for such an  
 "act of Violence and Strength, as the  
 "Ravishment of so Robust and Sanguine  
 "a Woman as she was, that had given  
 "Evidence before, whom it was a very  
 "great Question, if one of twice the  
 "Strength as he was endued with, could  
 "Master, after the way she made men-  
 "tion of?

Then he concluded by telling the  
 Court, he would act with the greatest  
 Ingenuity, in laying the Truth of the  
 whole Procedure between him and the  
 Woman, and would take up no more  
 of their time, than what was necessary  
 for it to be done in: The Sum and  
 Substance of which Confession was,  
 That he had been a Prisoner at Exton's  
 the Bailiffs, where the Fact was laid  
 to be committed, for some time in an  
 Action of Debt, and tho' discharged  
 of

of it, by making Satisfaction with his Creditor, continued to lie there till he had made ~~Enter~~ the amends he design'd him, for uncommon Civilities of Men of his Profession : That while he was there, this Woman's Husband had been likewise in Custody at the same House, which she frequented during his Abode there, whereby she contrived a sort of Acquaintance with the Master and Mistress of it, and likewise as he was told, for he never exchang'd one Word with her before the 8th of April last past, the Day mention'd in the Indictment, that upon that Day the Prosecutor came, and seeing him below Stairs, desired him to treat her, which he readily did with what she had afforded. Hereupon she struck into his Acquaintance with a very good Assurance, which she was in no sort of want of, and was for seeing the Rooms above, which Blandford was order'd to show her, but she said the Captain should go up with them, and was very importunate with him to do so, telling him, That sure he was not afraid to venture himself with a Woman. That hereupon she did

did go up with her, where all that  
 pass'd between them was a bare salute,  
 which he then could have wish'd he  
 had not taken from her, it being none  
 of the best favour'd on her part, but  
 very noisom. That upon her railing  
 him for being no Man, as had been a-  
 vver'd before, he was perswaded to go  
 up Stairs with her once more, when  
 she went into the Chamber he lay in,  
 and setting down upon his Bed, with  
 a very impudent Air, that shock'd him  
 very much, and caused Blandford to go  
 out of the Room, cry'd, Captain, I  
 hear you are an excellant Man Midwife,  
 pray feel my Belly, which very much  
 addid to Mr. Leeson's surprize, who  
 could not but blush for her: That  
 Blandford was not absent two Minutes,  
 but came up again from her Mi-  
 stress, who was Angry with her for  
 leaving them together, where they  
 did nothing further, but at her Re-  
 quest, agreed to meeet at the Standard  
 Tavern the next Morning: That at  
 their return to the Company below,  
 she shew'd no Tokens of Discontent  
 or Concern for any thing like ill usage  
 above, where there was neither Lock  
 nor

nor Bolt to the Chamber in which she  
 sate upon the Bed ; and that while she  
 continued there, she did not only sit  
 in his Lap, kiss him, and play with his  
 Neckcloth and Peruks ; but upon his  
 uneasiness for her so doing, and offer-  
 ing to quit the Company, which he,  
 to be rid of her actually did, endea-  
 vour'd to follow him ; that upon his  
 not meeting her at the Hour appoint-  
 ed and Tavern before mention'd, she  
 grew incens'd, and took a Resolu-  
 tion of forming that horrid Design a-  
 gainst his Life, which she had then put  
 in Execution ; and by the Advice of  
 her Mother and other Persons of the  
 like Complexion, got a Warrant from  
 Mr. Justice St. Loe, which was served  
 upon him by one Seager soon after ;  
 whereupon he was bound over to ap-  
 pear at that Bar, where he was then  
 under Prosecution for his Life, that  
 very worthy Magistrate, being at the  
 very time he took the Recognizance,  
 induced to believe the Innocence of  
 the accused, from the unparalleld  
 Assurance she that pretended to have a  
 Rape committed on her, shew'd in the

reci.

recital of it, which he had Reason to hope would have the same Effect upon the Jury, before whom she had given the like Proofs of want of all Modesty and Shame.

But the Jury had other Sentiments, and chose rather to give Credit to the Accusers than the Persons accused; so that notwithstanding the Bench, whose Candid and Impartial way of Procedure, shall always be had in grateful Remembrance by the Captain and the poor Woman, whom the Verdict was brought in against, did every thing that became Gentlemen to whose high Station it belong'd to weigh and preponderate what had been alledged for, and against the Prisoner at the Bar, by a very fair Representation of all the Particulars of the Tryal. However they were brought in Guilty of the Indictment, and were doom'd to suffer Death as in the like Capital Cases.

What

What rests upon the Captain after this Treatment, which he shall not call hard, in respect to the Judges who were under a necessity of abiding by the Verdict given into Court, by Men that were upon their Oaths to do Justice; nor in respect to the Jury, who he hopes went according to the Dictates of their Consciences, whatsoever has been said of one of them in the foregoing Relation, is in the last place, (after giving the World to understand) that the Complainant herself, the wicked Woman, for the Rape of whose Chastity he stands convicted, desired the Jurors to bring in a favourable Verdict relating to him, and only to find *Blandford* Guilty, whom she had an irreconcilable interest against; and when Sentence was pass'd upon them, sent to let him know she would beg his Life for a Premium of Fifty Pound, to Appeal to his Friends that have had any knowlege of him during his being a Man of any Conversation in the World, whether they have ever found any Tendency in him, towards such a Beastly and Ungentleman-like Action as this, of which

which he has been Accused and Convicted, and must have suffer'd Death for, as the worst of Criminals, had not his Majesty's most gracious Clemency put a stop to it, through the kind Offices of those who thought him not unworthy of the Royal Clemency, interpos'd in Arrest of Execution: And since he has the Honour to be nearly related to Persons of good Condition, not only in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, but in this, where it is his Misfortune and Unhappiness, after a Behaviour in the University and in the Army, which has been so well attested at his Tryal, as to challenge the Gainsaying of his most inveterate Enemies, who may give into a belief of his Guilt, from the Honour and Regard to Truth, which is generally profess'd by *English* Juries, he has held himself under the necessity of setting forth his Innocence, by declaring what has been related in a true State of his Case.

He little thought that there could be in Being, such a Monster of a Woman, for whose Sex he has always profess'd the

the highest Regard, exclusive of any vicious Consideration, on account of the Beauties of the Mind as well as the Body, which the generality of our British Ladies, who are eminentl<sup>y</sup> fam'd for the practice of all Christian Vertues, and much less that he should be brought into Judgment, for committing an Action, which no Mans Soul has a greater Abhorrence of than his. But since God has been pleased to call him to a closer Pursuit of his Duties, he is obliged to discharge, as a Christian, and one that has been brought up by his Parents in all Godly Fear, by this unexpected Visitation, and his Relations, amongst whom one is a shining Ornament of the Church by Law Establish'd, may partake of the Scandal of his Sentence, and in some manner share in the Reproaches that attend it: He has disburthen'd himself of every thing that his Memory was charg'd with, concerning his pretended Crime, and absolv'd his Conscience after this manner, in hopes that all and every one of them, who may receive any injury from the Cognizance of it in the Kingdom, where he has had the Honour

D and

and Advantage of being Born and Educated, will entertain a favourable Opinion of their Kinsman, who has only run the risque of being thought Guilty, by avoiding to be really so.

As to others, who have any Personal Knowledge or Acquaintance with him, and was not present at his Tryal to take a View of the Prosecutor, He declares in the presence of God and Man, and in expectance of a just Reward in the World to come, if he speaks otherwise than Truth, That he is, not Conscious to himself of any one Falsehood that has been inserted in this Case; which is humbly submitted to the Consideration of his Friends and Enemies, that the one may abide by their Sentiments in his Favour, and the other remove the Prejudices they may have too rashly entertain'd against him.

And as to those that know the Woman, who now since she cannot have his Blood, nor any Satisfaction in Lieu of the pretended Robbery committed against

against her Modesty, threatens him with an Action at Law for Damages, which he shall readily submit to in any of the Courts of *Westminster Hall*, when he shall be releas'd from the Place of his present Confinement. He Appeals to them, after all that they have been pleas'd to urge in Vindication of her, whether it is possible that he could be so far at his last Prayers for the possession of a Mistress, as to incur the hazards of a Tryal for Life, for hers, which he doubts not, when within Smell, will be as ungrateful to them as it has been to him?

Finally, He leaves his Request with this flagrant Professor of the vilest Impieties herself, that she would at last do that Justice to God and the World, whom she has so scandalously abus'd by Acts of Concupiscence, back'd with the Sin of Perjury, to take Shame to herself, and before it be too late, make some amends for the irreparable Injury she has done him, in blasting a Reputation, that shall ever by him be held of equal value with his Life, in an ample Confession of it.

**MIDDLESEX Jury.**

<i>Giles Riddle, Gent.</i>	<i>John Curtis,</i>
<i>William Strode,</i>	<i>Thomas Priddy,</i>
<i>Thomas Bayard,</i>	<i>Edward Prior,</i>
<i>Francis Kaines,</i>	<i>George Barnes,</i>
<i>Jeremy Lewis,</i>	<i>Richard Hazard,</i>
<i>Bruce Randal,</i>	<i>William Clements.</i>

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**The true Copy of a Letter sent to  
the Publisher, concerning Capt. Leeson's  
Case.**

---

T.O.

((29))

leveral days past and have

had a very heavy cold

and am now in a very weak

state and unable to

leave home.

On Saturday last I visited

the Hospital and the

Surgeon Dr. Daniel

Huber who told me

TO

**Mr. James Roberts**  
near the **Oxford-Arms**  
in **Warwick-lane.**

May the 12th, 1715.

SIR,

**A**S I am a Friend to that  
worthy Gentleman Captain  
Leeson, I think my self  
in Honour oblig'd to acquaint  
you, That this Day a Surgeon  
of particular Note came to me,  
and

(180)

and has been with severall  
others, and declared, That he had  
Fluxed Mrs. May twice; and one  
of the Judicious Jury declared  
before Mr. Smith and Mr. Jefferis  
in the Old Bailey, That they  
found him Guilty, because they  
were sure his Majesty would Par-  
don him.

M. J. D. M. R. 1712.

I desire that this may be ta-  
ken Notice of, and I am sur-  
the Captain will be very grate-  
ful.

Yours,

M. J. D. M. R. 1712.

S. 2.

2. I am a Gentleman in this  
Mortuary Gentleman Captain  
Fellow, I think my self  
in Honour obliged to sedistinct  
the said Day a sufficient  
of particular Note cause to me  
has